

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 12, 15 and 19.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18 and 20 as shown below.

The claims should read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An injection catheter comprising:  
~~an~~ a first elongated shaft having a distal end and a proximal end and a first lumen extending therebetween;  
a needle with a proximal end and a distal end and a needle lumen extending therebetween, the needle disposed within the first lumen of the first elongated shaft and extending from a proximal end of the catheter to a distal end of the catheter; and  
a needle depth control device located at the distal end of the catheter for controlling a variable extent to which the needle may be extended beyond the distal end of the first elongated shaft.
2. (Original) The injection catheter of claim 1 wherein the needle depth control device comprises:  
a stop collar near the distal end of the needle, wherein the position of the stop collar with respect to the needle is adjustable.
3. (Currently Amended) The injection catheter of claim 2 further comprising:  
a first set of threads located on the needle;  
a second set of threads located on the stop collar; and  
means for preventing rotation of the stop collar with respect to the first elongated shaft while permitting longitudinal movement of the stop collar on the first elongated shaft;  
wherein the first set of threads is engaged with the second set of threads such that rotation of the needle causes the stop collar to move longitudinally with respect to the needle to adjust the position of the stop collar with respect to the needle.

4. (Original) The injection catheter of claim 3, wherein the means for preventing rotation of the stop collar with respect to the elongated shaft while permitting longitudinal movement of the stop collar on the elongated shaft comprises:

a plurality of outwardly extending longitudinal protrusions located on the stop collar; and  
a plurality of grooves in an inner surface of the elongated shaft to slidably receive the plurality of outwardly extending longitudinal protrusions.

5. (Original, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim 1 wherein the needle depth control device comprises:

a stop collar near the distal end of the needle; and  
a spring mechanism disposed on the outer surface of the needle and inside the elongated shaft, the spring having a proximal end and a distal end, and the proximal end of the spring adapted to contact a distal side of the stop collar;

wherein the extent to which the needle may be extended beyond the distal end of the elongated shaft is controlled by controlling the amount of longitudinal force applied to the needle, which causes the spring to compress a certain amount to permit extension of the needle.

6. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 wherein the needle depth control device comprises:

a plurality of push rods, each having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein each of the plurality of push rods has a different length, wherein each of the plurality of push rods is disposed inside the elongated shaft, and wherein the distal end of each of the plurality of push rods is adapted to push against a flange attached to the needle to advance the needle;

wherein the extent to which the needle may be extended beyond the distal end of the elongated shaft is controlled by selecting which of the plurality of push rods to advance.

7. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 wherein the needle depth control device comprises:

a needle stop collar attached to the needle and having a distal end having a plurality of distal extensions around its circumference;

wherein the extent to which the needle may be extended beyond the distal end of the elongated shaft is controlled by rotating the needle stop collar.

8. (Original, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim 7 wherein the distal end of the needle stop collar has a stair-step configuration.

9. (Original, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim 7 wherein the needle depth control device further comprises:

a hood attached to the elongated shaft and having a proximal end having a plurality of proximal extensions;

wherein the extent to which the needle may be extended beyond the distal end of the elongated shaft is controlled by rotating the needle stop collar such that one or more of the distal extensions of the needle stop collar is selected to be longitudinally aligned with one or more of the proximal extensions of the hood.

10. (Original, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim 9 wherein the proximal end of the hood has a stair-step configuration.

11. (Original, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim 1 further comprising a mandrel extending from the proximal end to the distal end of the catheter for advancing the needle.

12. Canceled.

13. (Currently Amended) The injection catheter of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 1 wherein the first elongated shaft is made ~~outer surface of the second elongated shaft and the inner surface of the first elongated shaft are made~~ of a low friction material.

14. (Currently Amended) The injection catheter of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 1 wherein the first elongated shaft ~~low friction material~~ comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.

15. Canceled.

16. (Currently Amended) The injection catheter of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 1 wherein the ~~second~~ first elongated shaft comprises a non-absorbing material.

17. (Currently Amended) The injection catheter ~~medical device~~ of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 1 wherein the first elongated shaft is reinforced with a braid.

18. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) ~~A injection catheter comprising:~~ The injection catheter of claim 1 further comprising:

~~a first elongated shaft having a distal end and a proximal end and a lumen extending therebetween;~~

~~a second elongated shaft slidably disposed in the first elongated shaft, the second elongated shaft having a distal end and a proximal end and a lumen extending therebetween; and~~

~~a second~~ third elongated shaft ~~disposed in and~~ attached to the needle ~~second elongated shaft, the third elongated shaft~~ needle to move in a one-to-one relationship with the first elongated shaft and the ~~second~~ third elongated shaft to control the length of the needle ~~second elongated shaft~~ to maintain a predetermined deployment length of the distal end of the needle ~~second elongated shaft~~ as each are subjected to various bend configurations.

19. Canceled.

20. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) The injection catheter of claim 18 wherein the needle ~~second elongated shaft~~ comprises:

~~an expansion resistant~~ expansion-resistant material.